

important, the most important vote in a congressional career. I have to say to the gentleman, I doubt it. This is a motion to instruct conferees. The conferees were just appointed, and it is what we refer to around here as a non-binding resolution. Okay. I think we probably have had a few other votes that are more important than a non-binding resolution to tell conferees to do something in the other body and apply a rule to our body, but I will play along just for the sake of the debate because I think it is an important debate, even though it may not be the most important vote.

Our friends on the other side have, as I said, during the budget they have learned the words of fiscal responsibility, but they have not yet learned the music. The words are real easy to say. When you are in a hole stop digging. Well, of course, when you are in a hole stop digging, but stop digging in the pockets of the American people for more of their money so that you can keep digging, which is exactly what they did.

They presented a budget alternative on the floor that kept digging, and what did they do in order to stop the digging? They were digging in the pockets of the American people for more of their money called taxes. Why do they do that? Because they know who pays taxes. We do not pay taxes. The Federal Government does not pay taxes. The Congress, as a body, pays taxes individually but not the Congress, the House of Representatives or the other body. The only people in this country that pay taxes are taxpayers, and so when we apply a pay-as-you-go and increase spending, guess who pays. We go and they pay. We buy and they pay. All the time, more spending, they pay.

The second thing the gentleman from other side said, well, you have got to pay your bills. We agree and we will be bringing a bill to the floor that says you should pay your bills. Now you should not have to bring a law to the floor that says pay your bills. I would agree with the gentlemen on the other side that have said we have lost that discipline and we need to get that back on the spending side. There is no question, and we will do that; and we will have a debate on spending and paying your bills, and we should have that debate. But who gets the tax bill?

When a bill is presented, you pay it. Who is presented the bill for taxes? The taxpayers, that is who pays. So by saying we should have pay-as-you-go for taxes, my colleagues are basically saying we want to take more money from the American people.

We have heard about children's allowances. I want my colleagues to apply this principle to their kids and actually go to them and say, guess what, Johnny, you did not know this, but you pay for your own allowance. I mean, that is not only a head scratcher for them, but if a family was faced with this, we have heard a lot about families

and kitchen tables today. If a family found out that the amount of money they were bringing in was increasing, all right, every year, their income, what would they do in order to deal with the hole that they were in? They would tighten their belt, and this is exactly what we have done. They would not say, all of the sudden, let us pay for an increase in taxes by some offsetting income. That is a goofy rule.

You pay for taxes as a taxpayer, not as the government. The government pays for spending. That is where the rules should apply. Let us vote down this motion to instruct.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of the time.

This has been a very interesting and very telling debate. It has been a debate about paying our bills. Unfortunately, our colleagues across the aisle have tried to make this into some bogeyman about tax cuts, and there is nothing, nothing that could be further from the truth.

This is about balancing our budget and paying for what we spend. My friend from Iowa's constituents in his district and my constituents on the north coast, if they go in to get a farm loan or a car loan or a home mortgage loan, the bank looks at both their spending patterns and their revenue source. That is because they understand that the difference between spending and revenue is the deficit, something we all agree we have to get under control.

The chairman and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) understood this, too, back in 1997 when they joined 217 other Republicans to vote for a measure that put PAYGO in place; and I might add that PAYGO that they voted for in 1997 was actually stronger than the language that we are voting on today. It was statutory and they voted on a measure with Democrats, bipartisan measure, that passed a \$100 billion tax cut as part of that budget agreement.

I would be interested in knowing what has changed today other than the fact that our deficit and our debt is much higher than it was back then.

Mr. Speaker, if this Congress is serious about deficit reduction, this Congress needs to stand together, and we need to vote to support the PAYGO rules that apply to both revenue and spending. Our constituents today deserve it, and future generations deserve it. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this motion to instruct.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, the motion before the House today is very simple. The question is: Do we want to pay for spending and tax cuts or do we want to pass this burden off on our children?

Will we run the government like there is no limit to our debts or will we act responsibly, and work to balance our books?

The other body has passed responsible pay as you go rules thanks to bipartisan support, especially from the delegation representing my home State of Maine.

The State of Maine is full of small business owners, farmers, and fisherman—working families that must balance their own books.

Before my time here, I spent 22 years in the Maine Legislature. We always worked together in a bipartisan way to pass balanced budgets.

Pay as you go budget rules should allow us the opportunity to work in that same bipartisan way here in Washington.

Nearly all of us can agree that we need to return the budget to balance. The American people know, and we know that we cannot run deficits in excess of \$230 billion year after year.

The best way that we can do this is to make sure that any policy that would increase the deficit is paid for.

The American people want to run our own government responsibly.

I urge my colleagues in both parties to pass this motion and show the American people that we will work to balance the books.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

This vote will be followed by a 5-minute vote on the motion to instruct conferees on Senate Concurrent Resolution 95.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 353, nays 55, answered "present" 1, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 96]

YEAS—353

Abercrombie
Aderholt

Akin
Alexander

Allen
Andrews

Baca
Bachus
Baker
Ballenger
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Bass
Beauprez
Becerra
Bereuter
Berkley
Berry
Biggert
Billirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Bradley (NH)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Burns
Burr
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Cardin
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Carter
Case
Castle
Chabot
Chandler
Chocola
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Cole
Collins
Cox
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Doggett
Dooley (CA)
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr

Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gingrey
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Granger
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hall
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hensarling
Herger
Hill
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley (OR)
Hostettler
Hunter
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klecza
Kline
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Lynch
Majette
Maloney
Manzullo

Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McCrery
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Mica
Michaud
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Mollohan
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Nethercutt
Neugebauer
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Obey
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascarell
Paul
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sandlin
Saxton
Schiff
Schrock
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner

Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Skeltton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis

Souder
Spratt
Stearns
Sullivan
Sweeney
Tauscher
Terry
Thomas
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Toomey
Townes
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Vitter

Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Watson
Watt
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—55

Ackerman
Baird
Baldwin
Ballance
Brady (PA)
Capuano
Cardoza
Cooper
Costello
Crane
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
English
Filner
Ford
Gillmor
Graves
Green (TX)
Gutknecht

Hart
Hefley
Hinchey
Johnson, E. B.
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LoBiondo
McDermott
McGovern
McNulty
Miller, George
Moore
Oberstar
Olver
Otter
Pastor
Peterson (MN)
Platts

Ramstad
Sabo
Schakowsky
Sherwood
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Turner (TX)
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Visclosky
Waters
Weller
Wu

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Tancredo

NOT VOTING—24

Barton (TX)
Bell
Berman
Blackburn
Conyers
Culberson
DeMint
Dingell

Fossella
Frank (MA)
Gephardt
Harris
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Knollenberg

Neal (MA)
Sanders
Stark
Tanner
Tauzin
Taylor (NC)
Thornberry
Waxman

□ 1153

Mr. BLUNT and Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, on March 29, 2004 and the morning of March 30, 2004, I was unavoidably absent and missed rollcall Vote Nos. 94, 95, and 96. For the record, had I been present, I would have voted: Rollcall Vote No. 94—"Yea"; rollcall Vote No. 95—"Yea"; rollcall Vote No. 96—"Yea."

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON S. CON. RES. 95, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The pending business is the question on the motion to instruct conferees on the Senate concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 95.

The Clerk will designate the motion. The Clerk designated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 209, nays 209, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 97]

YEAS—209

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Alexander
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Ballance
Bass
Becerra
Bereuter
Berkley
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brown (OH)
Brown, Corrine
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Case
Castle
Chandler
Clay
Clyburn
Cooper
Costello
Cramer
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dooley (CA)
Doyle
Edwards
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Ford
Frost
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green (TX)
Greenwood
Grijalva

Gutiérrez
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley (OR)
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
John
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
Klecza
Kolbe
Kucinich
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lynch
Majette
Maloney
Maloney
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Michaud
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano

Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sabo
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanders
Sandlin
Schakowsky
Schiff
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Shays
Sherman
Skeltton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Townes
Turner (TX)
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wamp
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Wexler
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn

NAYS—209

Aderholt
Akin
Bachus
Baker
Ballenger
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Beauprez
Biggert
Billirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner

Bono
Boozman
Bradley (NH)
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Burns
Burr
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Chabot

Chocola
Coble
Cole
Collins
Cox
Crane
Crenshaw
Cubin
Cunningham
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeLay
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Dreier
Duncan